

Becky Sturdevant  
MADD Volunteer  
Kalispell, Montana  
[beckymadd@gmail.com](mailto:beckymadd@gmail.com)

Thank you to all of the committee members who worked to pass key DUI bills during the 2011 session. Special thanks to Representatives Menehan, Peterson, and Lavin, and Senators Shockley, Hinkle, Jent, Larson, and Moss for their sponsorships.

The 24/7 Program is working well for repeat offenders. They are not driving while impaired. The problem is the definition is too narrow. We are missing offenders who offended five *years* ago and offenders who offended five *weeks* ago. Please expand the scope to treat these offenders—to help them stay sober. The warrant for refusals is working well in several jurisdictions around the state, but this needs to apply to all refusals not just second and subsequent. Refusals should not be removed from the driving record when an offender pleads to a lesser charge. This is another loophole that should be closed. Aggravated DUI and the new tools for DUI courts improve compliance with treatment. Mandatory RASS strengthens the skills of servers and sellers who have a critical role in keeping our children and our highways safe. Our small cities are saving money in DUI prosecutions by having courts of record.

Thank you for considering the DUI bills which didn't make it through the 2011 session. Social Host will save lives lost and damaged from underage drinking. Drugged driving is increasing dramatically making a per se law for drugs more important each day. Representative Menehan's Interlock bill is a very effective way to keep offenders driving safely. I urge you to bring these bills back!

In my court monitoring I have seen several cases where felony offenders drove drunk after getting off probation. Some people need the structure of probation and the accountability that comes with it to help them stay sober. Please consider a bill to allow the court to impose a 10 year sentence for DUI five and subsequent.

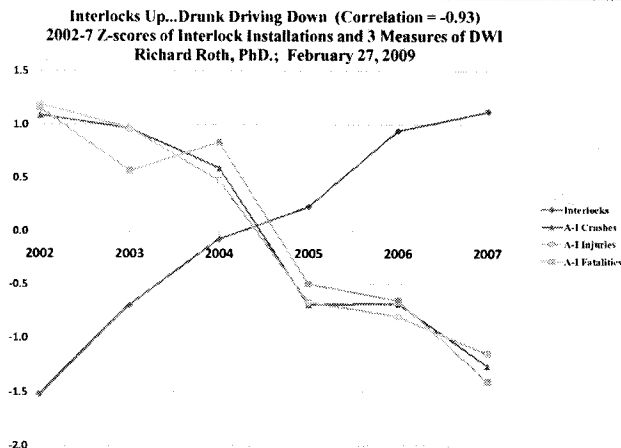
Treatment works! I appreciate the legislative efforts to help offenders be productive members of their communities rather than warehousing in jail and prison. Earlier community based interventions are more effective. Let's give courts the ability to mandate intensive outpatient treatment, which is subsidized by the state, for DUI two and three and inpatient treatment [WATCH or equivalent] for DUI three offenders who are diagnosed with significant substance abuse disorders.

Interlocks for all offenders save lives! Please consider this low cost strategy to ensure drivers are sober.



**MADD**  
Action • Victim Services • Education

## NM: Interlocks Up, DUI Down



Law & Justice Interim Committee  
September 9, 2011